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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Confirmation No.: 5340

Apostolo *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 1713

Application Serial No.: 10/823,771

Examiner: Hu, Henry S.

Filed: April 14, 2004

Attorney Docket No: 108910-00130

For: Perfluorinated Polymers

April 18, 2006

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction/Election Requirement dated March 29, 2006, the applicants elect:

Group III, claims 14-20, drawn to the use of amorphous perfluorinated homopolymers and copolymers of perfluorodioxoles having a formula IA, with traverse.

The applicants also submit that Groups I-III should be considered together on the following grounds:

1) The products (Group I – claims 1-4 and 9-13) are those used in the use claims 14-20 (Group III);

2) The method of polymerization (Group II – claims 5-8) is that devised for obtaining the products (Group I). In fact, by carrying out the polymerization reaction in a reactor wherein the polymerization mixture is in contact with metal surfaces (in contrast

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with that stated in process claim 5), the polymers of the invention are not obtained. See comparative examples 5 and 6 on pages 25-26 of the specification.

Therefore, the claimed method of polymerization is specific for the products and consequently Group II should be considered together with Groups I and III.

In the event this response is not timely filed, the applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension, along with any additional fees required with respect to this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 108910.00130.

Respectfully submitted,

ARENT FOX PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard J. Berman", is written over a horizontal line.

Richard J. Berman

Registration No.: 39,107

Direct Telephone No.: 202-857-6232

Customer No.: **004372**

1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339

Telephone No.: 202-857-6000
Facsimile No.: 202-857-6395